

# A Workbook for Kids About Fire



*Version for younger children*

**Provided by**  
**Washington State Patrol, Fire Protection Bureau**  
Office of the State Fire Marshal

# CONTENTS

Introduction .....	3
What is Fire Like? .....	4
Fire Tools .....	6
Do the Right Thing .....	8
My Home Safety List .....	10

This book belongs to:

---

My Fire Department is:

---

# INTRODUCTION

When people don't use fire right, bad things can happen. Someone can get hurt or things can be destroyed. We don't want those bad things to happen. We are going to help you learn what you can do to keep fires from starting. You also need to know how to stay safe if a fire does start.

This book will help you learn how to be smart about fire. You will learn what real fires are like. You will learn about fire tools and who uses them. You will also learn about the good things that can happen when you do the right thing.

Show you are smart about fire. Show you care by doing your best work. Be sure to read all of the chapters and finish any homework you are given.



## ACTIVITIES

Each section of this book has activities to complete. Make sure you complete all the activities assigned to you by the fire department.

# WHAT IS FIRE LIKE?

What do you know about fire? Where did you get your ideas about fire? Almost everyone gets their ideas about fire from movies and TV shows. Real fires are not like fires in the movies or on TV.

**FIRE IS DARK.** There is a lot of smoke in a fire. The smoke is very dark. If you don't get out fast, the smoke can get so dark you can't see where you are going. Smoke alarms help tell us to get out fast.

## Fire Facts

Fire is hot. Fire is dark. Fire is fast.  
Fire has poisonous smoke.

**FIRE IS HOT.** Fire is hotter than the oven when your mom or dad makes pizza. Fire is hotter than a curling iron. Fire gets so hot it can melt toys and other things. Fire makes things so hot that you could get burned if you touched them.

**FIRE HAS POISONOUS SMOKE.** Fire uses up the oxygen you need to breathe. The poisonous smoke is the most dangerous part of a fire. If there is smoke in the room, you must get down under it and crawl outside.

**FIRE IS FAST.** A little spark can start a fire. In just five minutes, a whole room can be on fire . . . all started by one little spark. Know how to get out of your home fast. When your smoke alarm sounds, you don't have much time to get out.



## Fire can be hard to put out.

You can blow out the fire on a candle. That's because candles are made to hold fire and be put out easily. When fire is not on a tool made to hold fire, it can get big very fast. Even a little fire the size of a candle can get bigger when you try to blow on it. Firefighters have special tools to put out fires. But sometimes even firefighters have trouble putting out a fire.



## ACTIVITIES

### TV & Movie Journal

Due date \_\_\_\_\_

If you see a fire on TV or in a movie, answer the questions below. Do this for two fires you see on TV.

	What was on fire?	Did the fire get big very fast? Yes No	Did the fire look hot? Yes No	Was there dark smoke where the fire was? Yes No	Did it look the way a real fire should? Yes No
TV Fire #1					
TV Fire #2					

### What Makes Fire?

Due date \_\_\_\_\_

Fire can be good. Fire can also be bad. Things that are hot, or that can get hot, can start fires. Can you think of some things that can get hot and start fires?

Write the names here: \_\_\_\_\_

### Circle the things that can start fire.



Things that are hot start good fires and bad fires. Can you think of some fires that are helpful? Can you think of fires that are dangerous? Write your answers in the space below.

Helpful Fires: \_\_\_\_\_

Dangerous Fires: \_\_\_\_\_

# WHAT IS FIRE LIKE?

Tools are things people use to make a job easier. Matches and lighters are tools that help us start fires. Things that start fires are very dangerous.

## Rules for Tools That Start Fires

Dangerous things have rules for using them. Here are the rules for matches and lighters:

1. Only grownups should use matches or lighters. A grownup is an adult, like mom or dad.
2. Go tell a grownup if you find something that starts fires. The grownup should put it away.
3. Try to stop other kids from using matches or lighters. Tell them how dangerous fires are. Go tell a grownup if they do not stop.



What should you do if you find tools that start fires? \_\_\_\_\_

## What Can Happen if Fire is Used Wrong?

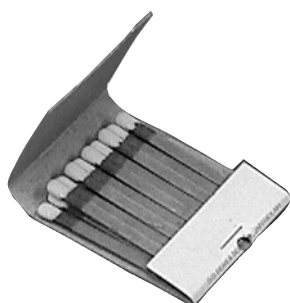
Two really bad things happen when people don't use fire right. The first bad thing is **being burned or killed**.

Sometimes the people who use fire wrong get hurt or die. Sometimes they cause others to be hurt or die. Nobody wants that to happen.

A second bad thing can happen if fire is used wrong. **Things can be destroyed**. Sometimes it is a house that is ruined. Sometimes it is a forest. These things are very important to you or someone else.

### Fire Facts

Things that start fires are very dangerous.



What can happen if someone does not follow the rules for matches and lighters? \_\_\_\_\_



## ACTIVITIES

### Fire Tools

Due date \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a line from the picture to the word that tells what it can do. There can be more than one line for each picture.



keep you warm



cook food



Burn your skin

light a candle



start a fire



burn your house



## DO THE RIGHT THING

People like you. Your parents and teachers care about you. They want to teach you right from wrong. They want you to learn to be safe and to be a “winner”. Doing the right thing means doing what you know is right. Doing the right thing can bring you a lot of nice surprises.

**Read the story below. What can happen when kids do the right thing?**

### **Jerome Saves the Day!**

There once was a boy named Jerome. He was in the third grade. He was a smart kid and worked hard on his schoolwork. Jerome liked his school. He also liked helping other kids, too. Jerome had a lot of friends. Mr. Vans was his teacher. He liked the way Jerome worked and helped. Mr. Vans chose Jerome to be the class leader for the week. Jerome got to lead the other kids everywhere. He led them to the computer lab. He led them to the library. He even led them outside to recess. When Mr. Vans needed a note taken to the office, Jerome got to take it.

Jerome was taking a note to the office for Mr. Vans. He saw two boys standing in the hall. One of the boys had a lighter in his hand. He was showing the other boy how it worked. Jerome’s mom had told him that matches and lighters were tools only grown-ups could use. Jerome knew the lighter was not a toy for kids. Jerome knew what his mom had taught him. He knew he had to find a grown-up to tell, and fast!

Jerome walked straight to the school office. He told the principal what he saw. The principal thanked Jerome. Telling a grown-up about the lighter was the right thing to do. Jerome made a good choice. If he had not told, a fire might have happened in their school.

*continued*



Jerome made a good choice. If he had not told, a fire might have happened in their school.



Jerome felt good about what he had done. The principal said that telling on someone to keep them from getting hurt is the right thing to do.

The principal told Jerome's teacher about his good choice. Mr. Vans was very happy. He rewarded Jerome and the entire class. They had an ice cream party and an extra recess. Jerome smiled as he led the kids outside to the playground. He felt very good inside. He had done the right thing.



## ACTIVITIES

### Do the Right Thing

Due date \_\_\_\_\_

Read the **right things** kids can do and draw a line to a **good thing** that can happen.

RIGHT THINGS YOU CAN DO		
be a good example	1. Tell a grownup if you see another kid with matches or a lighter.	Earn special rewards
Keep a fire from starting	2. Do chores and help at home.	
	3. Help other people.	Protect your head
	4. Work hard at school and do all your homework.	
Make your parents happy	5. Wear a helmet when you ride your bike.	Feel good about yourself

## MY HOME SAFETY LIST

I know two ways out of my home. **Yes No**

I know two ways out of my school. **Yes No**

I know two ways out of my \_\_\_\_\_.  
(daycare, friend's home, or somewhere else you spend lots of time) **Yes No**

I know the noise my smoke alarm makes. **Yes No**

I know that when I hear the smoke alarm, I need to go outside to the family meeting place. **Yes No**

I know my address by heart. **Yes No**

I know my phone number by heart. **Yes No**

I keep my room clean. **Yes No**

I keep my clothes and toys away from the heater. **Yes No**

I know where the heaters and hot things are in my home. **Yes No**

I know hot things can burn me or start fires, so I won't touch them.

I know three grown-ups I can tell if I find matches or lighters. **Yes No**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

I know I can call 911 if I need the firefighters or police officers to help me.  
**Yes No**

**I can do all the things on this list**

(write your name below)

\_\_\_\_\_

**A Space to Draw**

**Provided by  
The Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Washington State Patrol  
Fire Protection Bureau  
[www.wsp.wa.gov](http://www.wsp.wa.gov)**